

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMEOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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NEW-YORK, OCTOBER, 1849.

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

THE success of the Homœopathic treatment of the cholera, dysentery, and cholera infantum, has fixed the attention of thousands upon Hahnemann's system of medicine, who previously had not thought it of any value, and passed it by under the influence of the misrepresentations of Allopathes, as a thing which begins and ends in a day: also, many Allopathic physicians have lately ceased their opposition to Homœopathia, and allow it to be known that they regard it with favor, because of the overwhelming evidence that Homœopathia is perfect in its science, and the most safe and certain in its art.

Homœopathia has stood the test of frowns, of sneers, of ridicule, of misrepresentations, of lies, of legal enactments, of coroners' inquests, and of the most rigid experiments in the cure of the sick, all of which has aided to fix it as the only true system of medicine. What course will hereafter be pursued by the opposition, we are not advised; but it is probable that the

senior members of the profession will act as they have done, and contend for the preservation of Allopathia in an entire state, undisturbed by innovations; but the junior members will gradually yield to the force of truth, for, owing to their educational prejudices, few will be able to at once renounce old medical doctrines, however absurd and pernicious. We know many who at this present time are struggling to get free, that they may enjoy the full gratification of a desire for a reasonable medical science, as a guide in the healing art. The former we have long since abandoned, never expecting they would be converted from the errors of their doctrines and practice; but the latter we do not doubt will feel not only at liberty, but under obligation to study with care and diligence those immortal doctrines which were put forth by the illustrious Hahnemann. The people are becoming so thoroughly convinced of the safety and certainty of Homœopathia, that they are kept from renouncing Allopathia only by the force of the personal influence of the senior members of the profession. This state of things cannot continue long, and the junior members, even were they so disposed, could not exert anything like the influence of the seniors; consequently, as it is in Vienna, so it will be in this country, that a young physician will not be employed who is not thoroughly instructed in Homœopathia. This period is rapidly approaching, in fact, it is much nearer than is generally supposed; for even now, there is not in all this great country a location where an Allopath is needed; but there are urgent calls for hundreds of Homœopaths to supply our cities, towns, villages and country places. This demand must be met, and it will be met, for our enterprising and talented young men cannot but perceive that their interest in honor and emolument is safe when they comply with the wishes of the American people. Therefore, whether it be the love of science, or the

love of money, or both, which actuates the young physician, he must come into close communion with the Homeopathic school of medicine. If he stands as an Allopath, he will be regarded as holding doctrines which are false and pernicious; if he takes his position midway between Allopathia and Homeopathy, and denominates himself an Eclectic, he will be looked upon as without principles, and being a mongrel in medicine, he will be justly suspected of empiricism, and of treating the sick by a series of doubtful experiments, for he relies alone on a kind of loose experience, without a law to govern him. But he who is a pure Homeopathist, who has thoroughly mastered those immutable laws which constitute its science, and faithfully employs them in the cure of diseases, will secure the confidence and the esteem of the people, an honorable name among his colleagues, and an ample supply of all reasonable wants, generously bestowed for acknowledged valuable services.

The signs of the times disclose to us that the views we have taken of the subjects of this article, are not the vagaries of an enthusiastic mind, for they are becoming the common topics of conversation among physicians, and among the people. These very conversations furnished us mainly with what we have here written; and we have not any fear that we shall be charged with extravagant hope or confidence, or an undue heat of imagination, except by members of our profession over forty years of age, and those they control.

The London Correspondent of the Commercial Advertiser of this city, who is, we have understood, one of the Editors of the London Times, writes under date of August 17, 1849:

"A meeting for the purpose of discussing the nature and treatment of cholera, was held last evening, by one of the large medical societies of London. The speakers were practitioners of repute and experience, but they all differed as to the best means to be used. Dr. Rees was 'free to confess' that he had seen a great deal of cholera, and had tried several plans, but he did not believe any one possessed any advantage over the other. A Dr. Hughes, toward the close of the meeting, after many of the gentlemen had given the results of their personal experience, said, 'he knew very little of the subject matter of discussion when he entered the room; and now he knew less. All the gentlemen who had spoken appeared to hold different opinions.'

"Among other information recently circulated in consequence of the prevalence of the malady, has been a report of carefully authen-

ticated cholera cases treated by the medical officers of the Edinburgh Homeopathic Dispensary. The number of cases was 236, and their proportion of deaths was only 1 to 3, while the cases treated during the same time under the ordinary method were 876, out of which the proportion of deaths was as 2 to 1."

The differences of opinion among Allopaths in regard to the treatment of cholera, is not peculiar to that disease; take any one, or all of the more severe diseases, and the same differences exist. Many medical gentlemen can call to mind, that after listening for hours to discussions in medical societies, they could have exclaimed with Dr. Hughes—"I now know less." The fact as above related, from London, together with similar ones, quite familiar to us in this country, which every now and then get into the daily papers, go to make up some of the signs, which show that the proud look of Allopathia must come down; and the exorbitant claims of rank on the part of her adherents, their pretended dignity, their proud contempt of others, their ridiculous conceitedness, and their daring presumption, will not be much longer endured by the people, whose interest is at stake.

THE REPETITION OF THE MEDICAL DOSES.

BY DR. GRIESSELEICH.

(Concluded from page 63.)

By reviewing the statements of the above named physicians, we find all of them endeavoring to ascertain fixed rules, whereby the repetition of the doses is to be governed; in consequence of the extreme variety of life, and its expressions, it is however impossible to give fixed rules. Every attempt to do it, will always continue to be extremely imperfect, and reminds one of the aim of the modern Lycurgus, to provide for all cases which may possibly happen; to designate by paragraphs, with the punishments annexed, all crimes, all real or fancied transgressions and offences, which the judge has only to consult in the case in question. As the legislators cannot, even with all their learning and imagination, determine beforehand *all* cases, and are obliged to leave a number unwillingly to the judicial discernment, so also are the doctrinists placed in relation to the laws of the repetition of the doses; it is also here evident, that the individual case will be taken into special consideration in all its peculiarities, and that which is in one *most beneficial*, is in another not at all so, or in a much less degree. A certain portion of physicians consequently make such *avowals*, and

hold entirely to general definitions, so that it is left to the judgment of the practitioner what to do in a particular case. *And it cannot be otherwise.* The physician is at the sick bed like a jurymen; he gives the verdict, as to the state then existing, and applies the general law; and this is for a Homeopathic practitioner no other than the law "*similia similibus curantur;*" the first question will be, which *remedy* is adapted, and afterwards in what *dose*; and with this last is the repetition connected.

With the medicinal doses we intend to make a certain impression upon the unhealthy organism; it sounds, to be sure, agreeably to say that the impression is to be just so great as to conquer the evil and be of no injury to the organism, not so great as that the medicinal impression should produce the latter result, and not so small as to be unable to accomplish the former. Were all organisms equally balanced, one precisely like the other; were all diseases of a uniform character, no external interventions and no internal excitements existing, then would all men obey the first indication, be warned by the first admonition, and upon the first medicinal dose would diseases disappear; as we, however, have not to do with ideals, it requires therefore many looks, hints, admonitions, warnings, and even punishments often, in order to gain the object, to educate men, to save them from moral infection and disease or to cure them of such. Thus is it with the so-called diseases.

We remarked that Hahnemann originally allowed, as a rule, *one* medicinal dose and this is by all means consistent; according to his idea he will, with the adapted Homeopathic remedy, produce a similar *contre disease*, which of course he cannot mean to increase.

As Hahnemann, however, was some time after convinced of the necessity of the repetition of the dose under adapted circumstances, he must have consequently undergone also a change in his views in relation to his original theory of *contre disease*. He pronounced *one dose* sufficient for children and sensitive persons, comparing the effect to that of admonition or punishment administered to sensitive persons at the *proper time*, thus inducing continued good behavior—a permanent duration of effect. As injurious as incessant scolding and mis-timed punishment would be in the one case, so would a repetition of the medicinal doses be in the other. The result in both is similar. If the improvement of a morally afflicted person stands still or retrogrades, then we have recourse to the means already proved to be effective—we repeat the dose of admonition, warning, or punishment; as, moreover, every repetition, in all instances loses its charms, we are fond of alterations in repeating the dose; at one time it must be stronger, at another weaker, as the case requires, and as we are able from the symptoms to perceive the necessity of a change.

There is nothing absurd in the statement,

that, in this or that case, a remedy has extended its beneficial effect to thirty, forty, and more days—there is nothing absurd even in the acknowledgment, that the salutary effect of a remedy lasted for fifty years, or during a whole generation; we must only understand correctly what the "*duration of effect*" is. This, however, is the real absurdity, that such definitions in relation to the duration of effect have been put before the world as *medical rules*. Many a man has burned his fingers *once* in his life, and *never after*—he was cured during his life by his pain, (moral disease, self-illusion;) while others burn daily their fingers, and are nevertheless no wiser, but even the reverse. It is so with the common diseases, which frequently become the more obstinate, the more they are bombarded with medicinal doses of the same remedy.

The duration of effect, or time of termination of a medicinal dose of the adopted remedy, begins with the moment of incorporation, and lasts to the period of visible improvement; then is its work accomplished, and the improvement is the sign that the faculties of the organism have returned into the old track. We can speak only of the duration of effect of a medicinal dose in general, but not of a remedy in general; it is incorrect to say of *Arsenic*, that its effect lasts thirty or forty days, as we can just as well say it lasts ten minutes, or five years; small doses operate differently from large doses, and terminate sooner in acute diseases than in chronic. In violent cases of sporadic cholera, *Arsenic* can be given every ten minutes, of 1 gtt., *Nos. 1, 3, 6*; a slow poisoning by *Arsenic*, however, can continue for years.

This incontestable rule must be adhered to, that the *dose of the properly selected, adapted remedy be not renewed as long as a beneficial effect is manifested by it*; if Hahnemann insists upon this, he is *perfectly in the right*. There is no doubt that a sort of humdrum way gained ground in relation to the repetitions; its apology is to be found partly in the unperceived transfer by Hahnemann of his definitions, in regard to the duration of effects, from *chronic* afflictions, with which he was thoroughly acquainted, to the acute diseases, which latter he had not for many years observed at the bed-side.

Although we now readily perceive that a single dose of the proper remedy acts instantaneously, and expels the disease, we can just as easily be deceived in our expectations, if we wait the duration of effect for weeks to come.

Much, (it is true,) but not every thing may be accomplished by the repetition of the same medicinal doses, and for this reason the *change* of the doses, the *interim remedies*, were suggested, of which we hereafter will speak.

The repetition of the medicinal doses is an *evident and very essential improvement in the application of the remedies*, but it is no "*factotum*," fills not up the many voids, and we ought not to overlook, by means of it, the above-

mentioned main maxim, viz.: to remain a spectator *as long as the improvement progresses*. Whoever cannot do this will deprive himself of many victory; (it is necessary to know when a Fabius has to be cunctator, and when a marshal.) By repeating the medicinal doses, our object is to retain the *unhealthy organism in a condition best disposed to the restorative process*; this degree or point of disposition has been long called by physicians "saturation." By the repetition, we make the impression "more durable;" such is our object.

It is to be taken for granted, that *the faults made in the magnitude of the dose will sometimes be amended by the repetition*, as not until then does that effect appear, which we originally by the *first more adapted and powerful dose* ought to have produced.

How long a time is it advisable to be a spectator and await the effect? It is here entirely useless to search for rules. In regard to the treatment of *chronic diseases*, which are not connected with very urgent, especially painful symptoms, it can, as a general rule, be admitted, that the repetition is to be made at longer intervals, *after a dose of the adapted remedy has been given without a perceptible effect*. It is perfectly consonant in such complaints to repeat the dose, if the first dose (after waiting a certain length of time, which in the various forms of diseases is very different,) has produced no effect, and the proper selection of the remedy is beyond a doubt; as soon, however, as any effect appears, *evidently* belonging to the remedy, to suspend *even for days and weeks*, nothing can by this course be lost; and the blind powders, as well as water with some juice, are *indispensable* to satisfy the patient.

It is generally advisable in chronic diseases, *that there should be longer intermissions between the doses*; in acute diseases the premature repetition is not so positively injurious; on the contrary, by waiting too long time, which is very valuable in acute diseases, is lost, as such affections frequently deposit their "products" very rapidly.

The change of the medicinal doses is highly important, and mistakes are herein very often made. In acute diseases, the change of the doses is of great consequence; the individual case, however, must decide the physician for the repetition on a reduced or enlarged scale.

The repetition of the doses is of decided weight in diseases, when general or particular symptoms appear periodically, and whoever will, in acute diseases, await the so-called "termination of effect," will find himself very much deceived, will leave the patient in danger, when it can be evaded, and bring upon himself additional reproach.

The repeated attacks of acute diseases we must meet, if not with *severe*, yet with powerful antidotes, and renew the rapidly exhausted medicinal impression; frequently, *but with what degree of frequency, the periods of exacerbation must determine*.

In dysentery, diarrhoea, vomiting, cholera, it is best to give a dose after every discharge, however often it may take place; in colic, in face, teeth, and other aches of a periodical type, the dose must be renewed upon every return, and the same changed as soon as it ceases to be efficient, which is, at any rate, preferable to the immediate change of the remedy.

That a remedy can be its own antidote, is in accordance with published relations of experience. It is therefore probable, that in some instances the efficacy of a well-selected remedy can be destroyed by an inconsiderate repetition of the same. In this case, the original medicinal impression, as it were, by a "supplementary effect" of the new dose, will be changed, and even annihilated.—*Quar. Hom. Jour.*

A PRIORI RULES APPLICABLE TO HOMEOPATHIA.

The following considerations may invariably be relied upon as *a priori proofs, or signs*, that a discovery is founded in philosophic truth; *independently of the special evidence of any particular doctrine*.

1. That the assumed discovery shall have been before the public, with its alleged pretensions, from the period of a *quarter* to that of *half a century*.
2. That it shall be opposed to the reigning opinions of an influential corporate or professional body.
3. That it shall have encountered strong and long continued *opposition*, shall have been subjected to a *written controversy*; and have been, consequently, assailed by the logic and ridicule of the opposing party.
4. That its pretensions shall have been put down by *political power*.
5. That the same power shall, at a subsequent period, have *restored* it to its unfettered action.
6. That it shall have, gradually, gathered to itself a numerous *school*, from the body, the opinions and interests of which it specially affects; and that many of this school shall be distinguished by extraordinary capacity, and high moral character.
7. That within the period assigned, large masses of the public, not belonging to such body, shall, in the ordinary proportion of their different classes, have adopted as true, and acted upon the discovery in question.
8. That its doctrines shall have been adopted, not in one country only, but in many; hav-

ing found its way, more or less, wherever civilized society exists.

9. That at the *end* of the period assigned (1) the number of its adherents shall be greater than at any former part of it.

This *combination of a priori or transcendental signs of truth*, deduced from the history of philosophy, is strictly applicable to Homeopathy; and its opponents are challenged to show, throughout the entire range of that history, any scientific doctrine which, sustained by these signs, has, in the end, turned out to be *false*.

Signs 4—5. These might be omitted without much detriment to the argument. Both occurred, however, in Austria; with reference to Homeopathia.

Sign 6. It will not be denied that a large Homeopathic school *exists*. Amongst many others, not inferior in capacity and character, belonging to it, may be mentioned Professor Henderson, several years a very popular Professor of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, and Professor D'Amador, Professor of the same branch in the University of Montpelier; a man of distinguished ability, and whose admirable essay on the power of invisible agents may be safely commended to the perusal of Allopathic scorners, as containing more than has, hitherto, been dreamed of in *their* philosophy.

Sign 7. Sixty thousand of the inhabitants of Philadelphia, have, within about 20 years, adopted the Homoeopathic doctrine. Let but sufficient *time* and *numbers* be allowed, and general opinions and philosophic truth will, always, be found in agreement with each other.

Similar results have occurred in New-York and other large cities of the Union; in which, almost without exception, the Homeopathic practitioners have been regularly educated in the Allopathic schools. Some of them are, notoriously, of pre-eminent professional attainments. Could Henderson and D'Amador, together with these, possibly, be mistaken as to the merit of the two systems, *both* of which they *have*, but *one* of which the doctors of the old school, *to a man*, have *not* investigated and understood.

Signs 8—9. The doctors of that school, for obvious reasons, feel a disinclination to look into the Homeopathic branch of the history of medicine. From this cause they have remained ignorant, *grossly ignorant*, alike of its

proofs and progress; but the points under the present heads can be easily established.

JONATHAN BARBER, M. D.

Montreal, Sept. 14, 1849.

REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.

The standard by which we determine what constitutes a physician of high standing has not been settled in this country. If we had, in America, kings, and queens, and princes, and royal bloods, then we suppose Physicians ordinary and extraordinary to these, would be looked upon as of high standing in the profession. Some among us are silly enough to regard a professorship in a college evidence of high standing; the time was, even in our day, when this could to some extent be relied on; but it is not so now, for latterly, when one is not able to get into practice and earn his living, his friends often successfully seek to have him appointed a professor; hence it is, that many of our professors are in the neighborhood of the least. There are those who think if a Doctor writes a book, he certainly is one of the great Doctors; making book-writing the test of greatness; or if one writes an article for a journal or for a newspaper, he certainly must know something, and should be set down as having a high standing in the profession. Our own opinion is, that he who cures the sick, soonest and safest, should have, in the estimation of all, the highest rank. This is our standard. Such are only found in the Homeopathic school.

A FEW NOTES ON A FEW MEDICINES.

BY DR. CHAPMAN.

(Concluded from page 76.)

Angustura.

This medicine, according to Noack and Trinks, has a remarkable action on the motor and spinal nerves. The two following cases exhibit its curative action in this respect:—

A lady, about 50 years old, oppressed with gloom, of a saturnine complexion, suffered much from pain in her spine, at the nape of the neck, and the sacrum especially; at either of these places the pain was much increased by pressure. She had great difficulty in walking, and seemed threatened with paralysis of the lower limbs. She had a sensation of tremulousness and uneasiness in the muscles of the neck.

Various means were used for her relief, with

little or no effect. *Angustura* was prescribed for her. This medicine has very materially relieved her. She is cheerful, the pain is much less, and she walks with much more ease and comfort.

Another lady, about the same age, was also threatened with paralysis of the lower limbs. There was considerable aggravation of her sufferings from a few doses of *angustura*, followed by amelioration. It is but just to say that she has, since that time, made rapid progress to entire recovery, which is likely to be complete, under the influence of *Vital Magnetism*, or *Mesmerism*, as it is more familiarly called.

Angustura seems well worth trying in cases of spinal irritation, and of opisthotonus.

Alumina.

Many children, almost from birth to their second year or upwards, are subject to constipation—not brought on by unwholesome diet, nor by aperients. This occurs if they are suckled, or if they are reared by hand. The mothers of such children are generally of a meagre, adust habit of body, who themselves require anti-psoric treatment. The constipation seems to depend on inactivity of the rectum. The evacuations are scanty, and expelled with difficulty. In such cases *alumina* has been given, and seemed to act best.

When the evacuations are white, in such cases, *aconite*, *china*, and *digitalis* have been given, as well as *alumina*.

Aloes.

A lady had dysentery after her confinement; as this occurred two or three days only after the birth of her child, and she was a very feeble, delicate person, it was very distressing. Various remedies were tried, with little benefit. As she felt very faint after each evacuation, or attempt at one, *aloes* was given her, and the disease at once gave way.

In case of metrorrhagia it was given with happy effect. The "hiero-pikra," which chiefly consists of *aloes*, is the chief emmenagogue, used in the United States; and the emmenagogue pills in use in this country generally contain *aloes*.

In suitable cases it is one of the most appropriate remedies for piles, where the disease does not proceed from the abuse of this drug, and where there is no constitutional complication, but where there is burning in the rectum and tenesmus.

Ammoniacum.

A little boy, 7 years of age, had been vaccinated in his infancy; a few weeks after vaccination he began to suffer from eczema of one of his legs. This distressing disorder had grown with his growth. It was intercurrent with asthma; every now and then he had attacks of bronchitic asthma, perhaps two or three a year, but chiefly in the winter months. While he was asthmatic, his skin-disease receded; as soon as his breathing became natural, the af-

fection of the skin returned. It distressed him much: he scratched grievously, and his drawers were generally stained with blood. It may be here observed, parenthetically, that chronic skin-diseases may be often traced back to the period of vaccination in such a way as to show that the virus was communicated in that way.

In other respects this young gentleman seemed healthy. When he was seven years of age he had measles, from which six other children of the same family were suffering. It was very mild in all the cases but two. In the case of this boy, the attack was very severe; he had a good deal of fever, and great heat of skin; constant restlessness. The measles only partially thrown out. He had *Aconite*.

The leg affected by eczema became perfectly dry and wrinkled; the skin looked like shrivelled parchment. He was then covered over the whole body with the dark dots of the "morbus maculosus;" his fever much increased, and great anxiety. *Arsenicum* was then given to him.

On his being relieved of the fever, and the disappearance of these spots, the lungs became congested; dulness on both sides; great difficulty of breathing, and anxiety. Constant movement of the *ala nasi*; the countenance dark, with the anxious and parched look characteristic of the pulmonary affection. No expectoration. For this state of things he had chiefly phosphorus, which seemed in some measure to keep the disease in check; but no beneficial progress was manifested. While yet suffering in this manner he had one of his attacks of asthma, and it was expected that his life would be extinguished. *Ammoniacum*, in the 2d dilution, was then given to him; a dose every hour at first, and afterwards at intervals of three hours. The effect was almost magical. In a few hours he breathed more freely, the constriction of his chest was relieved; he began to smile on those around him. The cutaneous affection of the leg re-appeared, and the case proceeded favorably to convalescence and health.

This will be found a very valuable addition to the remedies for pneumonia. It is used in the old-school practice as an expectorant, and it is advised that it be given with great caution, as it is apt to bring on pulmonary congestion.

*One of our colleagues was called to see a case of angina, which supervened on the stopping of an old ulcer on the leg; he gave *ammoniacum*, the ulcer returned, and the angina ceased.

It has been recommended, but to be given with great caution, in hydrothorax: also for subaural colic, for diabetes, and bronchorrhea.

"Wibmer recommends *Ammoniacum* for weakness of digestion, and yet he states, in his *Materia Medica*, that it produces weakness of the digestive organs. J. W. Schwartz recommends it in amaurosis, and yet refers to *Wichmann's* observation, that *ammoniacum* has occasioned obscuration of sight. In com-

paring the physiological effects of *Ammoniacum* with the symptoms of the disease which the physicians of the old school have cured with that remedy, we shall find that those cures have all been effected in accordance with the principle, *Similia similibus curantur.*"

Anthrako-kali.

Experience has shown that this remedy is useful in cases of chronic herpes; several dispensary patients, who had chronic cracks and ulcerations of the nostrils, were relieved by its administration. It seems worth trying in lichen.

Aurum.

Seven years ago, a gentleman, after a few other medicines, was put on a course of this remedy under the following circumstances. He was a young man—but he was old in that kind of achievement of which Horace speaks in his ode to *Venus*—

" *Jam militavi non sine gloriā.*"

if that sort of ignoble glory consists in a conspicuous "*corona veneris.*" He was a grievous sufferer from secondary syphilis, and hydrargyrosis; a notable specimen of a victim of sexual and mercurial abuses. He had been repeatedly salivated, was wasted to a shadow, a breathing skeleton. He had nodes on his legs, and the aforesaid *corona veneris*; portions of the frontal bone had exfoliated. He had taken opiates habitually, and, as he said, £18 worth of *Sarsaparilla* during the twelve months that preceded his trial of *Homeopathy*. He had been suffering in this manner about two years. He might have used the words of the "*Sweet Singer of Israel*:" " *My wounds stink and are corrupt, because of my foolishness. I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease; and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.*"

He improved considerably under the use of *aurum*: and after he had been under treatment several months, he was recommended to go into the country to a farm-house. After being there a week or two suffering from nocturnal pains still, but in other respects much better, he went to Manchester, and saw a medical friend there who gave him a night-draught of *Henbane*. He took a single draught. He then gave up all treatment.

His medical adviser had lost sight of him for six months, when he one day met him, brisk, plump, hilarious. He was quite well, and coolly observed that perhaps the *Homeopathic* treatment had done him some good, but that he had been cured by his Manchester friend, with that single draught of *Henbane*. It is hoped, notwithstanding, that this may be recorded as a case of *Homeopathic* cure. The cure was permanent; and he seemed ever after, like the disappointed and scared bridegroom in *Scott's* wonderful tale, "*The Bride*

of Lammermuir

" to be " a sadder and a wiser man."

This remedy was given in a case of *Ozaena*, that was suspected to be of syphilitic origin. It was a very chronic case: and as no impression seemed to be made on it with this and other remedies, after a trial of some months, the patient withdrew.

It would probably be a good plan in such cases, to inject solutions of whatever medicine might be given internally.

It was used, after other remedies, with great benefit in a case of *Otorrhœa*, in which there was disease of the bones of the ear.

The *Muriate of Gold* is the preparation preferred by the writer.

Arsenicum.

Of this powerful remedy it is difficult to say anything, lest one be tempted to say too much.

There was a luncheon set forth a few months ago. Two of the party present partook of a pheasant, which had been brought from a district in which the farmers had used arsenic plentifully in their wheat fields. Numbers of pheasants had been found dead in these fields. From this narrative it will readily be conjectured that this particular pheasant did not die from the effects of "*villainous salt-petre*," as *Shakspeare* calls gunpowder, and a bit of lead, but from the arsenic in one of those wheat-fields. The lady and the gentleman, who fed on the bird, were both affected in like manner. The lady's case is given.

About half an hour after luncheon, she felt faint, and had an urgent call to the water-closet. The evacuation was copious, but there was no subsequent diarrhœa. She became very restless, and could scarcely keep herself quiet an instant; yet with the least movement, nausea and vomiting were brought on. She suffered greatly from thirst, and burning in the stomach. The pulse was very weak and hurried; there was utter prostration; the countenance was anxious and almost cadaverous in its appearance. There was considerable dyspœa, great tightness, constriction and sense of burning of the chest. She was sleepless through the ensuing night.

Her medical attendant, a *homeopathic* surgeon, on the suspicion of her having arsenical symptoms from having eaten arsenicated flesh, had freely given her milk, and the white of eggs. She had in succession, for her group of symptoms, during the several days she was ill, *Ipecacuanha*, *Nux vomica*, *Bryonia*, and *Phosphorus*. The last remedy was of great service in relieving the dyspœa, and the tightness and burning of the chest.

The gentleman, whose case this was, mentioned that the other pheasant eater, who had suffered precisely in the same way, was also ill several days.

So many cases will occur to each reader, of the cure of headaches, of a periodical character, that it may be superfluous to recite any in this place. But two may be briefly stated.

A gentleman had been for many years subject to a periodical headache, occurring once a week, sometimes twice, and lasting each time some hours. In all other respects he seemed well, and said he was so. This headache was *stunning*; he became incapable of all movement, or of attention to any subject. He could only rest his head on a table or the arm of a sofa and bear it as he best could. Arsenicum was given to him, and during many months he has only had one or two slight paroxysms, and none lately.

The other case is worthy of record, because one of our worthiest and most able colleagues was induced by that cure to investigate, and since to practise Homeopathy, and through his instrumentality several other medical men have become homeopathic practitioners.

The wife of this gentleman was subject to this distressing periodical headache: it generally had the character of the *clavus*, the boring, circumscribed pressure on a small spot on one of the temples. He had tried his best Allopathic resources for her; he had obtained for her the best advice of some of the best Allopathic practitioners in the metropolis. At that time he scoffed at Homeopathy. He was induced, however, to make trial of a few doses of Arsenicum of the 12th or 30th dilution. She was cured as by magic; five years have passed, and she has had no return of her headache.

Asarum.

Several cases have lately occurred of persons suffering from catarrh, in which the most distressing symptom was deafness in one or both ears. Some coryza and sneezing; a sensation as if the ears were closed or plugged up with some foreign substance. In these cases asarum was given with good effect.—*British Journal of Homeopathy.*

MIXED PRACTICE.

The support we have given to unmixed Homeopathy causes some who agree with us, both physicians and laymen, to communicate their approval of our course. We would, with pleasure, lay these letters before our readers, but they were written by those who do not desire their names to appear in print, for it was the purpose of the writers to give information to ourselves, to be used in our own articles, for which service we feel a due sense of benefit.

There is ample evidence in the facts before us, together with the nature of the principles which make up our system, that a mixed practice tends more than anything else, to retard the progress of Homeopathy. Wherever cases have occurred, the results of which have been unsatisfactory to those familiar with the

facts, uniformly, they have happened in a mixed practice. Were it proper, we could enumerate cases of this kind which induced individuals and families to give up what they thought was genuine Homeopathic practice. But, where the unmixed practice is strictly adhered to, an end is put to doubt on the part of the sick and of their friends. No other result could reasonably be looked for, if the principles be true, and the practice made to agree with them.

We have just received a letter from a learned and intelligent gentleman of one of our cities of this state, who, in speaking of two mongrels, says: "though their patients sometimes complain of the taste, nausea, &c., they keep themselves very popular with the half Homeopaths; and if an Allopath fails in the treatment of a critical case, and the friends of the patient are determined to resort to Homeopathy, the old school doctors are sure to recommend most highly these two, as the most skilful. Whether these Allopaths arrive at this partiality from a fraternal regard for their known propensity to heroic dosing, or from a less laudable motive, the result is usually such as to give perfect satisfaction to their own feelings!" This writer also remarks: "The time is coming, if it has not already arrived, when the true friends of Hahnemannian principles should know whom, and how far, to trust." We agree in this view of the subject, at the same time, we wish to encourage a generous regard for those who do not yet perceive how inconsistent they are with truth and sound judgment. There can be no such thing as an amalgamation of Allopathia and Homeopathy; the latter will not allow a deviation from its immutable laws with impunity. The administration of drugs to the sick without strict attention to positively known laws, such as Homeopathy consists in, is a serious matter, and harm will come of it, even if the doses are small. Every drug received into the human system is for good or evil; the peculiar effects of the poison will be produced whether the person be conscious of it or not. Drug effects are not always palpable in a few hours or days, but the injury they do may appear months afterwards; this is one reason why Hahnemann was so cautious in advising a repetition of the doses; and why he was so particular in teaching that we may, especially in chronic diseases, wait for days and weeks with full confidence of favorable effects, even from

a single dose of a drug if Homœopathic to the case; we have seen this verified too often in our own practice to doubt its correctness. We never could understand why a remedy should be repeated every two hours or so, as is commonly advised in acute diseases; and two or three times a day in chronic ones. We never heard of a reasonable explanation of this custom, and never expect to; and with the accurate knowledge of the effects of drugs which our school possesses, it should avoid that custom, and never repeat a dose of a remedy unless it be clearly indicated by the phenomena of the case. Obviously, this practice is kept up among us, by the off-hand prescriptions which are made, thereby the mind of the practitioner is left in doubt, if the remedy is the true one, and he seeks to accomplish his object by a kind of revulsive action, by the quantity of a drug. Nature's laws never change, therefore we may look for the appropriate effect of every dose of a properly prepared drug that may be received into the human system. Every true Homœopath should rely with unreserved confidence upon these laws, which he is supposed to understand. Oh! says an opponent, I have always thought the medicines of the Homœopath required faith. Well, what of it? Is there anything unreasonable in that? Can a person exercise a genuine faith in that of which he knows nothing? Can one have a real belief in that which he does not comprehend? Certainly not. The Allopath does not believe in Homœopathia, for the reason he does not comprehend it. But let us examine this faith a little further, for after all the outcry about it, when applied to the action of diluted drugs, it is not such a bugbear as our opponents would have the people regard it. Allopaths have faith too; and their patients have faith also, when they give jalap and calomel, they believe they will purge, and the recipient of them believes so too; and this faith is founded upon experience, and they perfectly comprehend all that is essential to such a result. The Homœopath knows, that drugs prepared in a certain way, and administered under certain conditions, certain effects will follow, and his confidence is unreserved, for two reasons: 1st, it is experience the world over; and 2d, that experience is founded upon clearly developed laws, which are immutable. This saves him from empiricism, and consequently he is no quack, nor does he believe in that he does not comprehend.

The faith argument, if it may be so termed, is the weakest of all the objections to Homœopathia. For no sensible man does any thing but by faith. We eat, drink, and transact our business by faith, and we take medicine by faith, Allopathically or otherwise. All our interests in this life and the next are by faith. Faith is one of the great principles of man, and that man is a fool, who sneeringly says, the Homœopathic cures are by faith. The main purpose of our own labor is to show that Homœopathia is true, that physicians and the people may have faith in it. We also wish to show, that attenuated drugs are the most suitable to cure human maladies, that the people may have faith in them. Is there anything unreasonable in this? We think not.

Before concluding this rambling article, there is a point which should by no means be overlooked; it is, that sometimes a very crude Homœopathic practice is fallen into by Allopaths; for they, having no fixed principles, wander about, and occasionally get upon our ground; in this respect, those mixed Homœopathic practitioners often resemble Allopaths, and the latter, not understanding the subject, allege that the former have no confidence in their system. The fact is, these persons do not know their own practice, and do not understand one another. This class of Homœopaths are habitually declaiming of the imperfections of Homœopathia, "It is so young," say they, "one man could not have rendered it any thing like complete;" and with a wise look, declare, "It will take hundreds of years before it will be found adapted to all diseased conditions, and under these circumstances we must go to the impure sources of Allopathia;" and they are true to their faith, they do go there; and we will do them the justice to say, that they do generally select the crudest kind of Homœopathia, which has been mixed with Allopathia. Hence it is, they too often fail to cure the sick, and thereby bring a reproach upon pure Homœopathia.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER WRITTEN TO A FRIEND.

You ask if oil is a legitimate remedy for a Homœopathist to use? I would answer that in disease, decidedly No. Oil is but a cathartic, though a mild one. It is an Allopathic measure—a revulsive measure, pro-

ducing a disease in the bowels. If constipation arises from a determination to some other structure other than the bowels, the Homœopathist would not give oil, but would prescribe for that determination, together with the constipation, for this simple reason, that he never prescribes for a single symptom, but for the whole group. If he gave oil, he would be prescribing but for one symptom, in the hope of removing the rest by overcoming that one, a mode of practice which is peculiar to Allopathy.

Constipation is the result, in most all cases, from an action set up in structures other than the bowels. You must, therefore, perceive that to cure that action by drawing it into the bowels is Allopathic, and does not deserve the name of Homœopathia. And it is equally clear, that when the constipation arises from a torpor of the bowels, to force them by a cathartic would, by the secondary action (which is the action upon which the Homœopathist relies), make them hopelessly constipated, for it is well known that Allopathy never does more than palliate constipation, and leaves the case in a far worse state than she found it. The cathartic principle is relying on the primary action of the drug, which is Allopathy ; the secondary action is the action upon which the Homœopathist relies for a cure ; therefore, no Homœopathist can belong to the evacuating school ; that is not his legitimate position.

SUCCESS OF THE HOMEOPATHIC TREATMENT.

HUDSON KINSLEY, M.D., of this city, reports to us, that from the 15th of May to the 15th of September, 1849, he treated 477 cases of *cholerine*, or the first stage of cholera, and no deaths ; 25 cases of fully developed *cholera*, and 4 deaths ; 97 cases of *cholera infantum*, and 1 death ; 142 cases of dysentery, and no deaths.

He gave *veratrum* and *cuprum* as preventives of the cholera, to about eight hundred persons, not one of whom took the disease. In the same families, in several instances, those who took the preventives escaped, while those who did not take them, became seriously ill of cholera.

Many of the cases reported above as *cholerine* were really in the second stage of cholera, but the action of the remedies was so prompt

that in an hour or less the cure was nearly effected.

All the cases of dysentery were characterized by mucous, bloody evacuations, and tenesmus.

Most of the cases of *cholera infantum* were attended with *teething*—the fatal one was a child less than a month old, and deprived of its mother's breast.

CAMPHOR IN CHOLERA.

THE spirits of camphor recommended and employed in from one to three drop doses in the cholera, never agreed with our own views, although on some occasions we have seemed to favor such doses.

In several cases of the cholera, we found drop doses instantly rejected by the patients ; in other cases, not in our own practice, we noticed that three drops every five minutes, and continued for two or three hours, caused an exceedingly hot skin, and profuse sweat, but no pulse, and all these cases died. In 1832, we lost two patients under strikingly similar circumstances.

In the latter part of the epidemic, cholera, as it prevailed in our city this summer, we employed the third and thirtieth attenuations of camphor, with results much more satisfactory. We hope these attenuations may be used, and the results reported. We could never understand why camphor would not allow of attenuation as well as other drugs. A few pellets moistened with the thirtieth of camphor will cause a perspiration in ourself, almost at any time—we have tested it several times.

We congratulate Allopaths that they have at last got something in the shape of a reasonable charge against Homœopaths for simulating their doses in the use of camphor. The London Medical Gazette rejoices exceedingly on account of this use of camphor, and so does a Boston journal by the aid of the Gazette. We can well afford to allow you, gentlemen, this bone to pick ; you will, no doubt, diligently work away at it for some time ; it will answer for a standing dish, for it is the first one you ever had, and it may be the last.

It is very well known that Hahnemann never saw a case of cholera, although, from the written description of that disease, he selected the remedies which have been so useful

in that disease in every part of the world. We doubt if Hahnemann, with the acuteness of his observation of the sick, would have continued the use of spirit of camphor in one or three drop doses, he would have perceived the unnecessary, and in some instances the dangerous aggravations by such doses; and in other cases, their failure to induce a favorable effect. We repeat, when it can be done, let the attenuated camphor be employed in the cholera, if indicated, and report the result.

CHOLERA STATISTICS IN CINCINNATI, AND IN LUBEC, MAINE.

HOMEOPATHIC physicians must be a remarkable class of men, if what is alleged by allopaths is true. They are represented as deceivers of the public, mainly by false statistics of the success of their treatment of diseases, and thereby hypocritically securing the confidence of the unwary. If this charge was true, nothing has ever happened like it, for the accusation was made nearly fifty years ago, and has been continued from time to time, to the present period; in fact, it has been a standing charge, uttered by allopaths everywhere; and yet these statistics become more and more favorable, and what adds to the remarkableness in the history of homeopathy, is, that latterly some of the most eminent men in the laity make up and publish statistics from their own observation, more astounding than those of the practitioners themselves.

For example; the Rev. B. F. Barrett, of Cincinnati, writes to Dr. Hering under date of August 9th, 1849, and the letter is published in the Evening Bulletin, of Philadelphia, in which Mr. B. states that "in 86 families that have relied upon the Homeopathic treatment, numbering 476 individuals, of these, 160 had the cholera, and but *one death*. In thirteen families treated allopathically, numbering in all 74 individuals, there have been 25 cases, and *five deaths*. In four families who use the eclectic or botanic practice, in all 30 individuals, there have been five cases, and no deaths." Mr. B. also states, "that in an iron foundry in which are 45 workmen, 20 have been attacked by cholera; some of them were of the severest character. *All of them* were treated homeopathically, and *all recovered*. In a family of six persons, every one

was attacked by cholera—*four* of them had allopathic treatment, and *all died*. The other two had homeopathic treatment, and both *recovered*."

The following is of a similar character:

"Friend Kirby, I have just received a letter from a very intelligent layman at Lubec, Maine, who uses homeopathic medicine in his family, in which he speaks of the cholera as now prevailing in Lubec. If the following extracts are deemed worthy a place in your journal, you are at liberty to use them.

"Yours respectfully,

"S. B. B."

"New York, September 27th, 1849.

"The cholera is prevailing in this little place very much. The mortality is more here than it was in New York, according to the population. I commenced to give some of my medicine, and have made some of the greatest cures. It has had the good effect to cure all who have used it. The doctors here have been losing more than half their number of cases. Dr. D. has had such bad luck under his common treatment, that he came to me to know why it was that the people who had got my medicine all got well in so short a time. I showed him the medicine and the books. He told me that he had some patients that he expected to lose, and he wished to try if there was so much virtue in this mode of practice. I gave him some of the medicine, and he tried it on his patients, and satisfied himself so much that he came and wished me to send to you to get him a medicine chest and books the same as mine, and send them on with all possible haste. Please send it by express as soon as possible. He is now using out of my medicine chest, &c. &c.

"Yours sincerely,

"G. W. GORUM."

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

CHARLES A. STEVENS, M.D., of Buffalo, New York, writes, "Homeopathy is gaining ground rapidly in this city."

John R. Coffe, Junr., M.D., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, wrote August 8th, 1849: "I have had thirty-three cases of cholera, and no deaths."

Dr. Lippe, of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in a letter to us—"as to the high potencies, there

is no doubt in my mind, but they are much more powerful agents than any I ever used."

Dr. George W. Bigler, of Hagerstown, Maryland, says: "I am happy to inform you that the prejudice that existed in the minds of Allopathists is fast giving way, and some of our most eminent physicians are investigating Homœopathia."

Dr. E. A. Potter, of Oswego, New York, writes: "I grow more and more in love with the practice of Homœopathia, and have good reason to believe it is steadily gaining favor with the intelligent portion of our community."

Dr. Wigand, of Dayton, Ohio, says: "I have had cases of cholera, but they yield so readily under Homœopathic treatment, that it is hardly worth speaking of the danger of that disease. I am now trying *Cimex lect.* in fever-and-ague, with astonishing success, and will give you a statement of cases hereafter."

Dr. O. E. Noble, of Penn Yan, New York, writes: "Homœopathia is gaining ground very fast in this section; the people are becoming sick of the 'slaughter-house'—to use the words of one who had an attack of *colic*, and had been treated with calomel, salts and senna, castor-oil, five drops of croton-oil, and thirteen enemas, without relief. I was sent for, and relieved him in two hours."

Dr. Joseph R. Brown, of Peoria, Illinois, writes: "Homœopathia in this city is in its infancy, but slowly and steadily making inroads upon the old practice, and I have no doubt that in a few years this city will be noted for its Homœopathic influence. The city is pleasantly situated, and contains 5000 inhabitants, and fast increasing. Homœopathia has not made as great progress west as in the east, owing in a great degree, to the fact that many who have attempted the practice were ignorant of the true principles, and mixed their practice, which I have found in all places to have retarded the progress; yet there is a wide field, and many desirable locations where a *real Homœopath* would do a fine business. The people of the west are becoming sick of taking drugs, and the *intelligent*, when informed, readily embrace the only true doctrine. All that is wanting here is to inform the people, and give them an *honest* practitioner, and the work is soon done. Allopaths here, as well as elsewhere, are ravaging like *mad men*—using the same arguments. Their days are numbered."

Dr. J. R. Piper, of Washington, District of

Columbia, says: "Homœopathia has taken a fresh start in the metropolis, and is progressing finely. I prefer to follow in the footsteps of Hahnemann, in the practice of 'pure' Homœopathia, as far as I understand it, and my success in the treatment of all sorts of diseases encourages me to adhere strictly to our principles. I wish you would induce Homœopathic physicians throughout the United States to give their address, and publish a list in your journal."

We would cheerfully comply with this request. Send in your names, gentlemen; but remember—pay the postage.

DYSENTERY

The dysentery prevails in our cities, and in many sections of our country. Under Allopathic treatment, it is very fatal; but Homœopathia is accomplishing even more in this disease than it did in the cholera. Many practitioners of large practice have not lost a single case of dysentery.

We should think, that in a disease like this, where its characteristics cannot be mistaken, and the universal success of the Homœopathic treatment of it, would, if any thing can, awaken a general attention to that system of medicine, from Allopathists; but they seem so fixed in their theories and habits, so walled up by societies, associations, academies, colleges and ethics, that light can no more enter them than the darkest dungeon. We rejoice, however, in knowing that this state of things is not universal, for many very lately have begun the study of Homœopathia, who will, we trust, become in due time successful practitioners of it.

OBJECTIONS AGAINST HOMEOPATHIA.

Those who undertake to reply to every objection which may be raised against truth, have a task which can never be accomplished. This arises, not from the difficulty of answering objections which may present themselves to a candid inquirer, but from the fact, that every truth has many uncandid opponents, who cannot or will not feel the force of reasoning, however decisive, and who will make use of an objection which has been a thousand times refuted, with all the assurance which an unanswerable argument would justify. In this respect, the truths of Homœopathia fare no better than truths in other de-

parts of knowledge. The opponents of Homœopathia never weary of presenting the very objections which have been again and again answered—many of which, indeed, are scarce worthy an answer—and they are offered, not merely with an unblushing front, but with an air of triumph. These objections may suffice to confirm those already prejudiced, but can have no weight with those who inquire for themselves. Thus it is in vain to tell such a person that Homœopathic medicines have no effect except through the imagination, for he knows very well, that the effect of a Homœopathic dose is as prompt and energetic upon an infant or a brute, as upon the most imaginative and mature individual. It is vain to tell him that nature alone performs the cure, for he sees that these very physicians who so extol the power of nature where Homœopathic patients are concerned, are exceedingly distrustful of her when prescribing for their own patients—so far from leaving every thing to her, the greater part of them leave well nigh nothing to her, but are never content till fire and sword have been carried into every part of the system. Equally vain is it to tell him that Homœopathists, under the cover of minute doses, administer the most subtle and powerful poisons, for he knows that the largest dose ever given by Homœopathic physicians, would appear infinitely small when compared with the smallest ever given by Allopathic. And thus we might go through with the stereotyped list of objections against Homœopathia, and show how futile they all appear to any one who is earnestly seeking *truth*, and who is in possession of the facts in the case. But if these objections are powerless in one point of view, they are not without their efficacy in another. They open the eyes of the community to the want of candor on the part of those who make use of them, and convince thousands that the self-styled Regulars, in their attacks upon Homœopathia are not actuated by a love of truth, and a desire to preserve from error what little there is of Medical Science, but are under the influence of motives far lower—motives unworthy any intelligent and honorable man.

We are far from being willing to brand all the opponents of Homœopathia with the foul epithets by which they seek to characterize us; we can even conceive it possible for a person to practise Allopathia and possess both sense and honesty; but we do aver that those are utterly destitute of both these qualities, and of every other quality usually found in the possession of honorable men, who can stoop to retail from house to house, such silly objections as those already noticed, based as they are upon falsehood, too shallow to deceive any but the most superficial. And yet in almost any community, one need not travel far to find men who pretend to be men of science, and who aspire to high rank in the profession, who can stoop to such littleness,

and for the most sordid considerations are ready to vilify doctrines into whose merits they are too conceited or too indolent to examine. In so doing, they but disgrace themselves, and make more certain the overthrow of those pernicious doctrines which they uphold. Truth will not only ultimately triumph, but will hurl back upon the heads of her opponents, the weapons with which she has been assaulted.—*North-Western Journal of Homœopathy.*

THE DAILY PRESS A MEDIUM OF MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE.

THE time was when medical men, for what reason we know not, regarded it beneath their dignity to write any thing on medical subjects for daily or weekly newspapers, and it was rare for editors of that branch of the press to meddle with medical matters; but a change is gradually taking place, and we should not be surprised that if in a few years some of our city papers will find it their interest to have regular medical departments, and competent editors to supply them. Already scarcely a newspaper from our large cities and towns but contains something on medicine. This is as it should be, for it shows that the people desire information on a subject in which they are deeply interested, and there is nothing unnatural in this; and, furthermore, there is nothing so mysterious in medicine that a layman may not, with a little reading and reflection, learn enough to be able to know when he has a real physician. To know this, even, would be of vast importance to many who are now subject to imposition, not so much from the grossly ignorant pretender, as from the quack with a regular diploma, which are so numerously procured for money, from certain doctor manufactorys, with but little regard of the qualifications of the recipient.

ERROR EXPOSED.

We cannot pass by unnoticed the evidence which often appears in the conversations and writings of Allopaths, that they do not know the import of *Similia similibus curantur*. The Western Lancet, for September, has the following from the pen of its surviving editor:

"It is well known that one of the fundamental principles announced by Hahnemann is, that a remedy must be capable of *causing* the same disease that it is intended to *cure*. This is the principle of *Similia similibus curantur*; or like cures like; the true Homœopathic doctrine."

We remark: 1st, that Homœopathia has but one fundamental principle. 2d, that principle is, "like cures like," but the editor of the *Lancet* mistakes its meaning, and interprets it, identities cure identities; which is not only not Homœopathia, but it is really no principle at all, for it is impossible to obtain two things that are identical in nature, and much less so in the phenomena of diseases, and those of drugs in the human system. The editor of the *Lancet* adds:

"Now every one will be able to perceive that camphor could not possibly *cause* cholera, and yet it is announced as a remedy for that disease! This is an obvious abandonment of one of their main principles."

The above quotations are as clear evidence as one needs to prove, what we really regret, that their author does not understand the subject which he treats. Here is a confounding of similarity and identity, a very common blunder in allopaths. Who ever dreamed even, that camphor would *cause* cholera? No one. Camphor will cause *similar* phenomena to those of cholera, which the editor of the *Lancet* ought to know, if he is familiar with toxicological works of his own school; and because of this *similarity* it becomes a Homœopathic remedy for cholera; and, in our judgment and experience, it is preferable in the 3d or 30th attenuation. Will the editor of the *Lancet* try it, the first opportunity, and see if we are right. Therefore, there is in the use of camphor in cholera, no "abandonment" of a principle by Homœopaths; but on the contrary, it is consistent, in all respects, with the law of cure.

REPORTED FAILURE OF HOMEOPATHIA IN THE CHOLERA.

THE Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, (which, by-the-by, no longer comes to this office; it has cut us, we suppose, but we can get along without it,) and the Western *Lancet* have published a statement, without giving their authority, of the utter failure of the Homœopathic treatment of the cholera in two hospitals in Paris. "Seven cases came under treatment," it is stated, "all of whom died, despite the little globules." We have not been able to learn the source of this information, and it is so unlike results obtained every where else, that we do not credit any part of it. We are, however, reminded of what hap-

pened to ourself in 1832. In one of the cholera hospitals in this city, attended by four allopaths, we undertook to treat a bad case of cholera homœopathically, and after arresting the disease, we left our patient for the night, in a quiet sleep, with a full pulse, warm skin, and in a free perspiration, and strict directions to the physicians, not to do any thing for him, except to allow him water for drink. The following morning we visited our patient, who was vomiting, and we soon detected that opium had been given him. On inquiry, we were frankly told that he had taken two doses of calomel and opium during our absence. This young man, soon after went into a collapse, and died. And this case was spoken of as a failure of the Homœopathic treatment of the cholera.

A WRITER in the Owego Advertiser, who conceals his name, is out against Homœopathia, by quoting the false accusations of Dr. Chas. A. Lee against Hahnemann, which we charged upon Dr. Lee at the time his article appeared, as a wilful perversion of facts. This Owego writer also quotes from a silly article which appeared in the Buffalo Medical Journal, which we believe, although we do not know the fact, was also from the pen of Dr. Lee—it was very like him. If these Allopathic writers had any respect for the intelligence of the people, they would not attempt to arrest the progress of Homœopathia by falsehoods and fallacious arguments. However, they may choose their own weapons—fire away gentlemen—truth is strong, even medical truth has a power in it, which cannot easily be overthrown.

We are sometimes tempted to publish extracts of letters, by which our readers might learn the praise some of our friends bestow upon this Journal, but really our modesty will not allow it, and the abuse of Allopaths cannot provoke us to a revenge of that sort, but our subscription list is gradually enlarging, which is the right kind of praise. If we thought this number would be seen by some 200 persons who have forgotten to pay for some of the past volumes, we would just hint to them, in the least offensive manner, that we think they ought to pay, or say they are not able, so that the accounts may be closed.

LETTER TO DR. TEMPLE.

Dear Sir :—I am one (and I rejoice to say) of many, who have been forced, by facts occurring before my eyes, during the dark period of sorrow, lamentation, and death, which has just past over our devoted city, to adopt the Homeopathic system. A few of the facts I will state, hoping that they may lead many who are blinded by prejudice, to lay it aside, and try your system.

In the latter part of the first week of June, I was visiting the sick and poor families in the neighborhood of Biddle and Thirteenth streets, to afford such little comforts as lay in my power; and, on enquiry, found that many of the families were down with the Cholera—five were lying dead in the block which I was visiting, and five others were then down with the disease—all had been taken in the previous twenty-four hours.—alarm was depicted on every countenance—hope seemed to fly as soon as Cholera entered the abode of misery. I endeavored to comfort and cheer the desponding, but the reply was—"My neighbor So and So was well yesterday, and he is dead now, and he had the best physicians in town!" In one family in this block (an Irish family), I learned that the wife of an industrious laborer, who had been unceasing in her attentions to the sick and the dying for weeks, had just been taken down by this dread disease, and would soon be dead. I hastened to the house, where I found the husband bending over his wife to watch every breath—he seemed very anxious, but said he hoped to see his wife get well, as his Physician did not "murther his patients like the other Doctors," and that he had "seen his wife cured before by his Doctor after every body gave her up to die." I asked what she was taking, he pointed me to two cups on the table, with water in them, which he said he gave a table-spoonful from first one and then the other, every ten minutes. I tasted the water but could perceive no medicine in it. I inquired if that was all the medicine his Physician had left. His reply was—"Yes, and I believe it is enough, for her vomiting is stopped, and she is asy of her cramps, and her purging is not so bad." My surprise was great—I looked at his wife, who seemed sunk and utterly prostrate, and I thought that she would die—but determined to see this new and mysterious way of treating Cholera (my visit was in the morning), I determined to see her in the evening again.

Evening.—Visited my block again—all of those sick in the morning, except the Irishman's wife, were dead—she was comfortable—no more vomiting, purging or cramps—her appearance was more natural, but looked as if she had been through a long spell of disease. Learned that the Doctor had been again, declared her out of danger, had left her some other medicine, and said she would be able to sit up the next day. I asked for the medicine, and again a cup of water was shown me—I

could taste nothing, could smell nothing and asked whether the Doctor put any thing in the water. "And sure he did," was the reply. My surprise of the morning now grew into astonishment—here were nine other cases in the same block, all taken near the same time, all treated by the regular system of medicine, and all dead—while this Irish woman, worn out by attending the sick, the dying, and the dead, was recovering under a treatment, new, simple and marvellous. I determined to find out more about it.

Called the next morning, and, to my amazement, found the woman sitting up and looking well—said she felt well, had slept soundly all night, and eaten a hearty breakfast. Carrying out my determinaton, I enquired for persons who were under this treatment, and soon heard of one on Franklin Avenue, where I went, and found in the same dwelling three treated by the regular system, and one by this new plan. I watched these cases. The three under the commonly approved system died every one in thirty hours. The one under your system was very low for several days, but recovered; and, I must say, that when I saw them, I thought there was the least chance for him—and here I found the same tasteless water in two cups, and concluded that if such a case could be cured, there must be medicine in the water, and of a most powerful nature, although it could neither be smelt nor tasted. These two facts must suffice for the present, as I have taken up more paper than I intended, and may be trespassing on your time.

S. T. G.

St. Louis (Mo.) South Western Hom. Jour.

HINTS TO AUTHORS.

1. Be brief. This is the age of Telegraphs and Stenography.
2. Be pointed. Don't write all around a subject without hitting it.
3. State facts, but don't stop to moralize. It's drowsy business. Let the reader do his own dreaming.
4. Eschew prefaces. Plunge at once into your subject, like a swimmer in cold water.
5. Condense. Make sure that you really have an idea, and then record it in the shortest possible terms. We want thoughts in their quintessence.
6. Avoid all high-flown language. The plainest Anglo-Saxon words are the best. Never use stilt when legs will do as well.
7. Write legibly. Don't let your manuscript look like the tracks of a spider half drowned in ink.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Hanson Preston will find the article entitled "Fatal consequences of the present modes of practice," which was commenced in the second number of this volume, and ended in

the fifth number, very appropriate to accomplish his object, much better than anything we could now write. The Journals have been sent as directed.

Doctor B.'s favor is received—his article is too long for us, and leans too much towards allopathia.

Medicine. You are a wolf in sheep's clothing. Remember, medicine, that an old Homeopath can perceive what is similar and what is dissimilar.

J. S. B. You think blisters homeopathic ; we don't ; and that blood-letting is also, so thought another man, as conceited as yourself, he promised to show it, but has not ; he simply asserted that it was so, and you have done the same.

Inquirer. Most certainly we would cause a patient to vomit, if we knew his stomach contained stramonium seeds. Homeopathia has nothing to do with removing the seeds from the stomach. You would not give the 30th attenuation of a drug, to remove a splinter from a finger, would you ?

I. R. R. If you have some three or four thousand dollars to rely upon, you may remove to this city, and with economy, after you have lived that up, you may begin to receive enough for professional services to support your small family.

Dr. L. D. We have no need of the service you speak of, and do not know any one who has.

DISCOVERIES.—On the authority of the Western Lancet, in *Cincinnati*, the discovery has been made that medical men are not suited to the place of members of the Board of Health ! In this city, a large number of our most intelligent citizens discovered that allopathic physicians are unfit to be counsellors to our Board of Health. These discoveries may be of use hereafter.

HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Session of 1849 50. Lectures will commence on the first Monday of October, and continue until the first of March ensuing, and will be delivered under the following arrangement.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics, by CALEB B. MATTHEWS, M. D.

Homeopathic Institutes and the Practice of Medicine, by WILLIAM S. HELMUTH, M. D.

Botany and Medical Jurisprudence, by SAMUEL FREEDLEY, M. D.

Clinical Medicine, by CHARLES NEIDHARD, M. D.
Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children, by WALTER WILLIAMSON, M. D.

Physiology and Pathology, by ALVAN E. SMALL, M. D.

Chemistry and Toxicology, by MATTHEW SEMPLE, M. D.

Surgery, by FRANCIS SIMS, M. D.

Anatomy, by WILLIAM A. GARDINER, M. D.

Clinical instruction in Medicine and Surgery, given at the Dispensary connected with the College, daily.—Students who have attended one or more full courses of instruction in other medical schools, may become candidates for graduation, by attendance upon one full course in this school.

Amount of fees for a full course of lectures, \$100.00
Matriculation fee, paid only once, 5.00
Practical Anatomy, 10.00
Graduation fee, 30.00
Students who have attended two full courses in other schools, 30.00.

The Commencement will take place early in March.

W. WILLIAMSON, M. D., *Dean*,
No. 80 North 11th St., Phila.

MEDICAL LECTURES.

The undersigned proposes to deliver a regular course of lectures (daily) on the Practice of Medicine, to commence on the 5th day of November next, and to end on the 1st of March following.

The main object of these lectures will be to teach the science and art of Homeopathia ; at the same time, it is intended to present somewhat minutely, a history of medicine from the time of Hippocrates to the present period.

It is desirable that those who intend to practice the healing art according to the system of Hahnemann, should avoid the too common error of entering upon that duty, before having thoroughly studied it. This cannot be accomplished so well as by frequent familiar lectures, together with opportunities of seeing the practice in various diseases. Those who attend this course of lectures, may have the privilege of a daily attendance at the New-York Homeopathic Dispensary, and examine the cases "treated there by twelve Physicians of the Homeopathic School," for which there will be no charge.

The lectures will be delivered at the Dispensary Room, No. 58 Bond-street.

Tickets for the course, \$15.

Those who enter the office of the undersigned during the lectures, and avail themselves of whatever may be there afforded them in aid of a knowledge of Homeopathia, will be charged \$15 extra.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D.
No. 762 Broadway.

New-York, August 1, 1849.

Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of this Journal may be had at \$1.00 each of Mr. Rademacher, Philadelphia ; Otis Clapp, Boston ; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway.

Subscriptions for this Journal will be received as heretofore, by Otis Clapp, Boston, Mass., by J. F. Desilver, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Rademacher, Phila.